



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Kind Secures \$4 Million for High Tech Projects to Enhance Troop Safety

Funding for Eau Claire Company Clears the House

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) today applauded House approval for \$4 million in awards that will support two high tech projects at Silicon Logic Engineering, Inc of Eau Claire. The funds, which Kind worked to secure in the House 2006 Defense Appropriations bill, will assist the engineering design company in fulfilling the goals of the research and development defense contract it received earlier this year.

“Silicon Logic Engineering is developing exciting, cutting-edge technology that will help our servicemen and women do their jobs more efficiently, safely and at a lower cost,” said Rep. Kind. “The innovation behind this technology is a prime example of how Wisconsin companies can not only succeed, but excel in today’s changing economy.”

In April, Silicon Logic Engineering, Inc. was awarded a \$2.2 million Department of Defense contract to engineer two high-quality, cost-efficient projects that enhance troop safety and performance. The \$4 million awarded today will support these projects: \$2 million for the Primary Battery State-of-Charge Indicator Field Testing to maximize battery performance; and \$2 million for the USB Data Acquisition Module Product Development to improve speech recognition in troop communication devices. More information below:

1. Primary Battery State-of-Charge Indicator Field Testing. Amount: \$2 million

This project will provide a low cost, accurate State of Charge Battery Indicator that can be utilized on all Army lithium sulfur dioxide, lithium manganese dioxide, and zinc air disposable batteries. The new battery design will increase battery performance in high humidity and immersion environments, decrease the battery load for troops, and improve overall soldier confidence and performance on the battle field. This project, when complete, should also result in a \$10 million cost reduction per year on primary throw-away batteries

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2. USB Data Acquisition Module Product Development. Amount: \$2 million

This program will develop a Universal Serial Bus (USB) data acquisition module (DAM) that will provide high quality, wide dynamic range audio digitization, coupled with a discrete switch state sending capability. The system will provide voice activated and voice controlled means to perform key operations and will accept voice control input from both current and proposed vehicle intercom systems. Benefits include maximum reliability of voice recognition and response, clear and concise radio signals, effective communication on the battlefield from a whisper to a shout, the ability to transmit on the move without interruption, and 95% reliability and accuracy.

The Senate is expected to approve its Defense Appropriations bill later in the year.